

VZCZCXYZ0000
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTV #0422/01 0501453
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
P 191453Z FEB 09
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0573
INFO RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY 5511
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 3557
RUEHCF/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 1672
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 5873
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY 2080
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 1445

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 000422

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/19/2019

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [PTER](#) [PINR](#) [MASS](#) [MOPS](#) [EG](#) [KWBG](#) [IS](#)

SUBJECT: IDF DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF DISCUSSES GAZA OPERATION
CAST LEAD AND U.S.-EGYPTIAN ROLES TO SLOW SMUGGLING TO HAMAS REF: A. TEL AVIV 00420 B. TEL AVIV 00391 Classified By: Ambassador James B.

1. (S) SUMMARY: Israel Defense Force (IDF) Deputy Chief of Staff MG Dan Harel in a meeting with Ambassador Cunningham and senior U.S. offici
2. (SBU) U.S. State Department officials participating in the meeting included Ambassador Cunningham, Ambassador Stephen Mull from the Office
3. (S) In an office call with a visiting U.S. senior official, IDF Deputy Chief of Staff MG Dan Harel said he appreciates the role of the U.S
4. (S) In response to a query on Egyptian seriousness in stopping smuggling, Harel stated that Egyptian support was split. On the Intelliger
5. (S) Harel said that fighting the problem from the last 1000 meters before the Philadelphi border is useless and we should instead address
4. (S) Harel said that the only real leverage on Egypt can come from the U.S. and opined it is the only country that Egypt will heed. Additi
5. (S) In response to a query on the sophistication of HAMAS weapons, Harel stated that HAMAS had Chinese and Iranian made 122mm rockets with
6. (C) Harel explained that Cast Lead actually proceeded better than expected, and there was pressure during the campaign to widen the initia
7. (C) Harel admitted that whether the IDF wanted to be in the humanitarian business or not, the IDF was obliged by law to continue to provid
8. (U) Ambassador Mull has cleared this cable. ***** Visit Embassy Tel Aviv's Cl